Shaw Trial Judge Held in Vice Raid

By David Snyder
Special to The Washington Post

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 18—Judge Edward A. Haggerty, who presided at the Clay Shaw trial, was back on the bench today after his arrest in a stag party brawl with police.

"Oh, well," he remarked to a photographer, "the world's not coming to an end."

Judge Haggerty was booked last night on charges of conspiring to commit obscenity, soliciting for prostitution, simple battery on police, and resisting arrest during the vice squad raid on a motel near the Criminal Court Building.

It was in Judge Haggerty's courtroom that Shaw was found innocent of charges brought by District Attorney Jim Garrison that he conspired to kill President Kennedy in Dallas.

Lawyer's Statement

Robert Zibilich, the judge's attorney, said Haggerty was attending a "before-the-wedding bachelor's party," long a tradition in New Orleans.

Police were at the scene about three hours before they moved in. Newsmen were on hand well before the raid and duly recorded the wild disorder in the motel room as Haggerty attempted to get past police.

He struggled with three vice squad officers for more than a minute before he was finally subdued on the floor, his wrists handcuffed behind his back.

A police spokesman denied that there was any conspiracy to "get" Haggerty.

In New Orleans the news media are routinely invited along on raids. A television station checked a police source to find out what was involved in the raid and learned that "some prominent people" might be involved. The Times-[illegible] so learned that some prominent people might be involved.

Said a police officer, "The judge just happened into the circumstances."

Three Women Arrested

Judge Haggerty was arrested with 13 other persons—including three shapely women—in a police vice squad raid aimed at gambling and a "stag show."

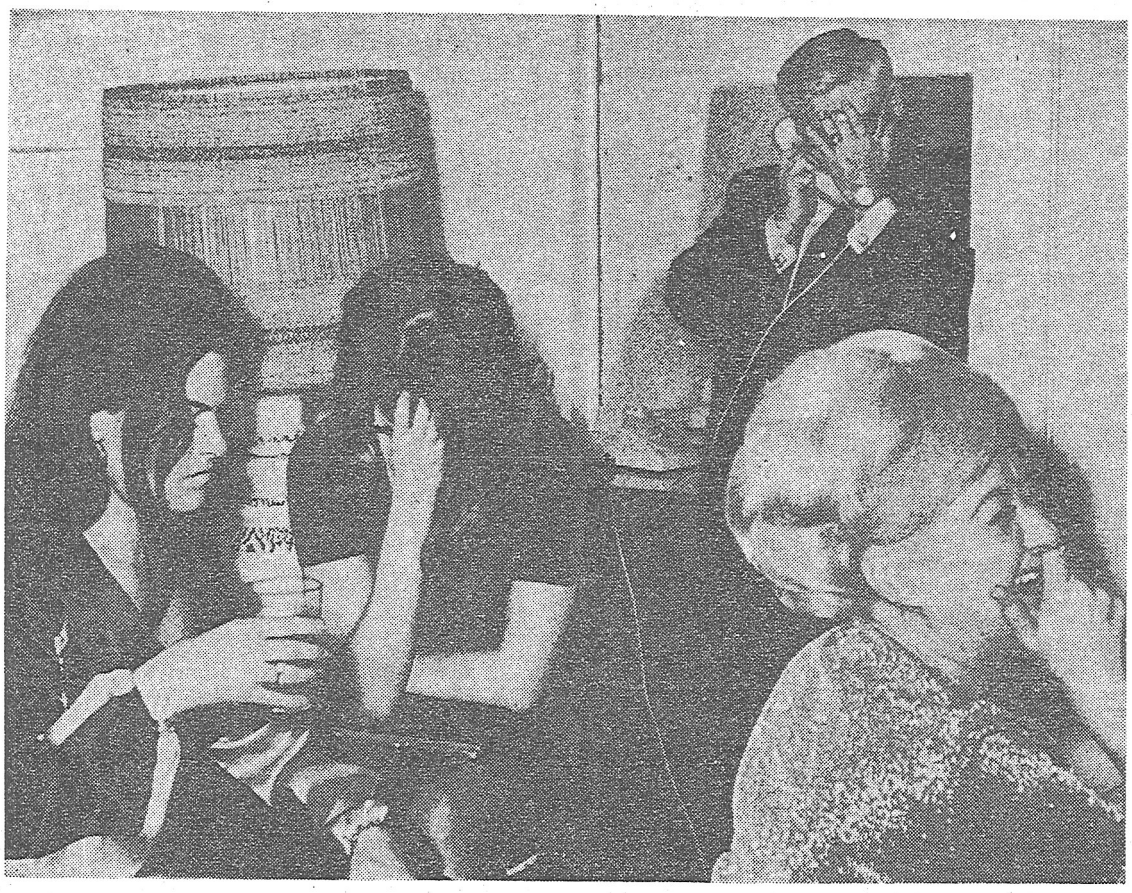
Police said they found a $5 admission fee being charged at the door, stag movies being shown and "live entertainment" being conducted. They said they also broke up a handbook operation.

After the judge had been subdued and thrown face down on a couch in the motel room, a police officer began to inform him of his constitutional rights.

Haggerty interrupted the officer saying, "Well now, I think I should know those . . ."

United Press International

Vice squad officers struggle with Judge Haggerty in motel.



Associated Press

New Orleans Judge Edward Haggerty Jr., who presided at Clay Shaw trial, shields face after arrest at stag party.